

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE (Filing No. H-1194)
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "K" to S.P. 748, L.D. 2199, Bill, "AN ACT to Make Additional Corrections of Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine."

Amend the Bill by inserting at the end before the ~~Emergency~~ clause the following:

'Sec. 371. 29 MRSA §905, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 56, is amended to read:

§905. Emergency rule by police officer

Whenever a police officer shall deem it advisable, during a fire or at the time of any accident or special emergency or special event and only for such a period of time as is necessitated thereby for the public safety or convenience, temporarily to close any way or part thereof to vehicular traffic, or to vehicles of a certain description, or to divert the traffic thereof, or to divert or break a course of pedestrian traffic, such official shall have power and authority to do so.

It shall be unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to fail or refuse to follow the directions for the movement of such vehicles, upon request or signal of any such officer.
Failure to comply with this requirement shall be a Class E crime.'

Statement of Fact

Police officers are being requested to regulate or control traffic flow at special events. They are doing so in many

incidents without statutory authority. Should a mishap occur while performing such duties, officers and their agencies could be in an unfavorable position in a civil lawsuit under these circumstances. Correction of these ~~oversights~~ could be easily made by the addition of a few words provided in this amendment.

Filed by Mr. Joyce of Portland.

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